

ORIGINAL

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21
BURD STAIRS MILENTA 1913-21
NO. W.S. 482

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BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.

STATEMENT BY WITNESS.

DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 982.....

Witness

Mrs. A. Ginnell,
24 Clyde Road,
Dublin.

Identity.

Widow of the late Laurence Ginnell,
M.P. for Westmeath and later T.D.

Subject.

Diary of her own and her late husband's
national activities, 1874-1923.

Conditions, if any, Stipulated by Witness.

Nil

File No.S. 2302.....

Form B.S.M. 2

ORIGINAL

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1013-01
BURO STAIRE MILITARA 1013-01
No. W.S. 982

STATEMENT BY MRS. A. GINNELL,

24, Clyde Road, Dublin.

The following chronology of important dates and events with which I was associated in the public life of my late husband, Laurence Ginnell, has been compiled by me from my diaries and those of my late husband.

It covers the period 1874 to 1923, and while the information contained therein is somewhat brief in regard to certain dates and events, it will I hope be of use to the future historian.

LAURENCE GINNELL, M.P., "The Member for Ireland", T.D.

Born in 1852 in Clonabrack, Delvin, Westmeath,
died in Washington, U.S.A., in 1923.

He was practically self-educated.

- 1874 Wrote his first letter on politics in defence of P.J. Smith, M.P., for Westmeath, who had been arrested.
- 1875 Wrote many letters on the same subject. Some were published in "The Irishman" and others in the "Leinster Independent".
- 1885 Started work in the "National League" through Mr. T. Harrington.
- 1896 Elected member of the "Young Ireland Society".
A lecture on "Cleanliness of person and home" was noticed in "United Ireland" and "Nation".

Sent £3 to Derry to help the National Cause there.

Worked at the "Plan of Campaign" in John Dillon's

and then in Val Dillon's houses.

- 1887
Dec. Went to London to commence work at the office of the Irish Press Agency.
- 1890 Trouble beginning among Irish Nationalists (Parnell).
- 1893 Was called to the Bar at Middle Temple, London.
- 1894 Finished "The Brehon Laws".
Received his first brief.
- 1899
May 29 Was received in private audience by Pope Leo XIII, to whom he presented his book "The Doubtful Grant of Ireland".
- Oct. 2 Asked by Michael Davitt to undertake the work of Secretary pro tem of the United Irish League. He agreed.
- 1900
June National Convention to confirm the reunion of Irish Nationalists after the Parnell Split. It was considered a nice gesture to make the Chairman of the Minority (Parnellite) Party (John Redmond) Chairman of the United Party. Some one, I think it was either O'Brien or Davitt remarked on hearing the decision "The skunks - they've saddled us with John Redmond".
- 1902 Was adopted as National Parliamentary Candidate at a convention in Mullingar, but was beaten at the General Election.
- 1903 Action brought by Lord de Freyne against the National Directorate of the U.I.L. It was necessary to vacate the office to avoid the service of a writ.
- June Mr. J. Muldoon called and said he must get out of the country and accordingly we went to Boulogne "on the run" but returned early in July.

Sept. 8th At a meeting of the Standing Committee of the U.I.L. O'Donnell made an attack on him. The decision was that he was to be made Assistant Secretary, instead of Secretary, which he attributed to his opposition to Wm. O'Brien's policy regarding the Land Act of this year.

1903 Sept. 9th Meeting of certain members of the Directory and certain members of the Irish Party to make arrangements for booming the Land Act. He went late at night to see Michael Davitt, who advised him to see John Dillon, which he did.

Sept. 10th Had an important interview with Wm. O'Brien.

1904 Jan. 4th Directory meeting. Fr. Clancy made an attack upon Davitt, Dillon and Ginnell in connection with the Land Act.

1906 Jan. 2nd At a U.I.L. Convention in Mullingar L. Ginnell was selected Parliamentary candidate for North Westmeath by 99 votes to 72 for Sir Walter Nugent.

Jan. 19th Was elected unopposed M.P. for North Westmeath.

May 17th Mullingar branch U.I.L. "before taking further action" wanted an explanation of his speech at Collinstown on 15th April.

Was called to the Irish Bar.

Aug. 31st A circular was issued signed by Donal Sullivan and himself convening a meeting of delegates for the 9th Sept. At that meeting (at the Downs), it was decided to hold a public meeting there on the 14th October.

The meeting was held and the cattle driving policy was started.

Nov. He asked Mr. Redmond to convene a meeting of all members of the party interested in the division of untenanted lands. Mr. Redmond said that all members were interested and that he might raise the matter at the next meeting of the party.

1907
May
6th Banquet given in the House of Commons by the Irish Party to the Colonial Premiers. He got Botha's signature on the menu card - and it was the only signature he asked for. Some members of the Party got the signatures of the English Ministers who were present. This was, he thought, a lowering of the flag.

May
7th Birrell introduced his "Irish Council Bill" - "an admirable measure", which Redmond practically accepted. In the course of his speech he asked "Is this a Bill which we ought to accept?". L.G. answered "no". No other member of the party answered, though some of them murmured and agreed with L.G. Afterwards Sir James Whittaker, an English M.P., asked him "What will your Convention do with the Bill? - pass it of course!". "Yes" said L.G., "we will pass it to the flames". Sir James was astonished and said "I heard your Chairman accept it with slight reservations". L.G. replied: "You have asked me what our convention will do. That I have answered".

Oct.
22nd Killulagh cattle-drive: Seven men were arrested, brought before the R.M. and sent to Kilmainham jail for two months.

Oct.
27th Anti-ranching fund opened at a meeting in Delvin.

Dec. 2nd Attended, on behalf of labourers an enquiry at Kells under the Labourers' Act.

20th Judge Ross sentenced L.G. to six months' imprisonment for a speech at Kilskyre on 1st December but he was not present in court. On receipt of a telegram to this effect he went "on the run" to Edmondstown and remained there until the 23rd in order to be available to welcome home the Killulagh prisoners - the first men arrested for cattle-driving.

Dec. 23rd Left Edmondstown in a trap covered with a rug to welcome home the prisoners at Killucan station. There was a great force of police present at the meeting, which he addressed. To avoid bloodshed he promised the police to be available afterwards. After the meeting he went to Kilbride with his wife and her father and was arrested there that evening and brought to Kilmainham Jail.

1908 Judge Ross ordered his release on the grounds of
April 24th ill-health. The Governor very kindly telegraphed his wife giving her the news.

During his time in prison he wrote most of his book "Land and Liberty" - the apologia for cattle-driving - "The land for the People and the Road for the Bullocks", which was published in the following July.

Nov. 7th Went to Ireland partly to attend a meeting and partly to defend young men accused of conspiracy at Riverstown, Co. Sligo. Was retained by their solicitor and went with Mr. Tully to Riverstown to see some of the accused and the spot on which Stenson (?) was shot.
John O'Dowd, P.A. McHugh, assisted by priests and J.P.s,

Counsel and to apply for an adjournment, which was tantamount to a surrender. He withdrew.

- Nov. 8th Received a telegram from John O'Dowd warning him against asking any question in the House of Commons regarding Riverstown. He asked the question nevertheless.
- 1909 Jan. 7th Meeting of North Westmeath Executive U.I.L., which he did not attend and at which a resolution reflecting on him was passed.
- Feb. 11th At a Party meeting he demanded a statement of the Party's finances, was ruled out of order, but he persisted, was put out of the room and the door locked.
- 16th Attended a meeting of the Irish Party in the House of Commons. Cullinane attempted to attack him but Redmond discountenanced him and he remained silent.
- March 31 At the re-organisation of the Horseleap Branch U.I.L. P. McKenna appealed to his supporters to start a fund to rescue North Westmeath for the Party.
- 1910 Jan. 19th Patrick McKenna, the official Irish Party candidate, and L.G., Independent, were nominated as Parliamentary candidates. Mr. Ginnell had the Irish Party, the clergy, with a few exceptions, the Unionists and most of the people with money, the public houses, many of them paid to give free drinks to McKenna's supporters, and the newspapers, with the very valuable exception of Jasper Tully's papers "The Westmeath Nationalist" and "The Roscommon Herald" - against him. L.G.'s brother James, then in China, helped to finance his election. Election result: Ginnell 1993, McKenna 1373.

Result received with "great bonfires and rejoicings in Kilbride and whole country".

Feb. The Irish Party passed a resolution "excluding all factionists".

1910 At Rochfort Petty Sessions he was returned for
June trial to the Assizes for a speech made at Turin. At the
16th Westmeath Assizes the case was adjourned to enable the
Crown to apply for a change of venue.

Sept. Meeting of National Directory of U.I.L. L.G.
15th went there with a deputation from some of the rebel Westmeath
branches. They were all kept out and detectives followed
them about the City all day.

Oct. At a Conference of the rebel branches of the U.I.L.
13th in Mullingar an Independent National Executive was formed.
Forty delegates were present.

Wrote an article on "The Brehon Laws" for the
Encyclopaedia Britannica and attended a banquet given to
contributors in the Savoy Hotel, London, on November 17th.

Nov. General Election announced. Mr. Crean, a William
O'Brienite, told him that he had authority to offer him
all the funds he wanted if "they" put up a man against
him. "They" did not, and he was re-elected without a
contest.

1911 Created a "scene" in the House of Commons by
31st opposing the election of The Speaker. When the scene was
Jan. over, Mr. Byles said "Come here, you old rebel, and shake
hands". All the papers reported the incident the next

day, most of them trying to make the thing look ridiculous and the "Daily Telegraph" called his speech "coarse, clumsy, unrelieved invective". F. Hugh O'Donnell wrote to congratulate him and he also got a number of postcards, offensive and otherwise.

Later on there was a debate in the House of Commons about the incident and he was suspended for seven days. There was a lot of support from the Radicals, who called for a division on the matter. Piltman's wrote saying they saw in some paper that his notes were written in shorthand and that they would like a page or two to print in their paper "as a souvenir of a historic occasion".

July
6th

Created a slight scene in Parliament with a reference to the assaults by the police on the people in Dublin.

1914
Oct.
11th

Attended a Volunteer meeting in Parnell Square.

Oct.
20th

Wrote Eoin MacNeill offering services for anti-recruiting campaign if out-of-pocket expenses were paid.

1915
Sept.

Addressed a meeting in the Phoenix Park to protest against imprisonment of Irish Volunteers without trial.

First meeting in Greville Arms Hotel, Mullingar, to start the Peat project. Zarebb and Col. Warburton attended. Subsequently a Peat Committee was formed.

Dec.

Egyptian Community in London gave him a dinner in the Imperial Hotel in honour of his activities for oppressed people generally.

Received many abusive and threatening letters

during this year.

1916
Jan.

Conscription Bill introduced.

Feb.
29th

Attended a meeting in the Mansion House, Dublin, on the Financial Relations Question, at which he was called for the first time, I think, "The Member for Ireland".

April
14th

Had a call from Miss Helena Moloney asking him to try to find out the whereabouts of some Volunteers who had been brought to England, neither interned nor imprisoned, but under Government supervision - Mellowes, Blythe, etc.

24th

Mullingar Railway Station blocked with soldiers and police. He wanted to get back to London for a "secret" meeting of the House of Commons. Not being able to travel by rail, he hired a motor car for Dublin, in which Dr. Gogarty asked for and received a seat. They were stopped at Lucan, they detoured and were stopped by Volunteer sentries on the Cabra Road. He was allowed through on foot and he walked towards North Wall, getting a man to carry his portmanteau, but he was able to get a taxi on the North Circular Road to take him to North Wall. That station was held by the military and no boat was sailing.

Going along the Quays to Butt Bridge, met a car which took him to Dunlaoghaire Pier, also occupied by military and no boat sailing. Had to stay in a hotel until Wednesday afternoon when the boat brought him to Liverpool instead of London.

May
3rd

Mr. Asquith announced in the House of Commons, in

frigid tones, that Patrick Pearse, Thomas Clarke and

Thomas MacDonagh had been tried by court-martial yesterday and shot this morning.

The House yelled in fiendish exultation, in which some of the Irish members joined. He shouted "Huns, Huns".

As there have been repeated denials that some members of the Irish Party cheered the news of the first executions, it should be stated, for the sake of historical accuracy, that John Dillon was not in the House at the time. The cheering by them was reported in the evening paper "The Westminster Gazette", but not in any other paper - evening or daily. Neither were the cheers (by the Irish Party) reported in Hansard. L.G. gave notice of a question as to why these cheers were not reported in Hansard; the question was disallowed.

June
2nd

Meeting of Members of Parliament in the House of Commons to hear and question Lord Kitchener. Ginnell questioned him about Irish prisoners in solitary confinement although untried.

13th

Crossed to Limerick for an interview with the Bishop, Dr. O'Dwyer, which was got through the help of the O'Donovans and O'Callaghans. The Bishop was very cordial, but could not see his way, at his age, to head a deputation to America to collect money for the relief of those who suffered by the Rising.

9th

Went to Wandsworth Prison with Miss French-Mullen and came back with about 50 letters in his pockets. He was nicknamed "The G.P.O."

21st

In response to a telegram he went to Belfast via

Dublin to address an anti-partition meeting in the Ulster Hall, which was prohibited, but he addressed a small meeting in a Trades' Hall.

At a meeting of the Irish Literary Society, London, of which he was one of the founders, Mr. Ginnell asked some of the members if they had been to Wandsworth and they wanted to know what was at Wandsworth!

June
24th

Went to Wakefield prison, but was refused admission.

25th

Motored with Irish friends to Knutsford Prison, giving his name in Irish, Labhras Mac Fionngail, and got in.

He also visited the untried Irish prisoners in Stafford Jail.

Mrs. Ginnell saw Mrs. Stopford Greene for a minute, who said that "Miss Boyle O'Reilly seems to have gone completely off her head" - but all this is another story.

27th

Mrs. G. called, with Miss French-Mullen, on Mrs. Stopford Greene to show her an outrageous letter written to Art O'Brien by Miss Boyle O'Reilly, saying, among other things, that L.G. said that the Sinn Féin plans involved the assassination of some members of the Irish Party, which he named. Mrs. Greene was tired, having been all day at Roger Casement's trial.

28th

Mrs. G. went to Wandsworth prison to-day, as she did practically every day, but no one was allowed in, not even to see Seán T. O'Kelly, who was said to be suffering from pneumonia.

July 7th Mrs. G. went to Woking Prison, but was not allowed in.

11th Mr. Arthur Goodbody called. He wants to try to get the prisoners' permission to work at remunerative trades, he providing the means of starting them.

14th He lectured on "Irish Aspirations" before the Hampstead Independent Labour League.

15th On his way to the Passport Office, by appointment, with reference to his application for a passport to go to Sweden to study the system of utilising peat there, he was arrested and charged under the Defence of the Realm Act with having entered Knutsford Prison by using "a false name". He was released on bail provided by Art O'Brien.

28th At his trial he was fined £100 or six weeks' imprisonment. The Gaelic League wished him to appeal, for the sake of publicity, to which he agreed. Fr. Kent and W.P. Ryan were his witnesses.

Sept. 24th Important meeting in Castlepollard. One Sunday at Mass there the organ played "God save the King" and "The Marseillaise".

A private letter says: "I suppose you heard of the high jinks in Castlepollard. It seems that a modest reference in the "Midland Reporter" to "God save the King" and "The Marseillaise" on the church organ caused the disturbance. Fr. Smith, C.C., and the school-mistress who played are to be "tried" before three parish priests - the school is closed - the people assembled outside the church and proclaimed that the organ was bought with their money and so on. Mustn't Jasper (Tully) wonder how the

expression escaped his keen eye. It is thought Fr. Smith will be removed. He had, it is said, removed, with physical force, the player on the organ. The people assembled outside cheered Fr. Smith. I'm afraid Jasper will get a knock for allowing the reference to appear, or maybe he will face right about, as he did a few times in his life".

(The "reference" that caused the trouble was contained in an article written by Mrs. Ginnell).

Oct.
10th

His appeal was heard, Mr. T. Healy being the Counsel. The fine was reduced to £50 and the term of imprisonment reduced to three weeks.

Fr. Kent, one of his witnesses was a little deaf and perhaps pretended to be somewhat deafer than he was. In any case a Court official had to go over to him to repeat every question of the magistrate, Sir John Dickinson. After a while the magistrate, getting tired of this procedure, literally bellowed a question at Fr. Kent. Fr. Kent said: "The music of thy soft, low voice I am too deaf to hear".

Some time afterwards police called to his house to seize furniture in payment of the fine, but the furniture was in his wife's name and could not be taken away. When the police apologised for "troubling", Mrs. G. said "Oh, these things have to be done in the interest of law and order and civilisation". "Particularly civilisation" said one of the police.

Nov.
1st

L.G. was arrested, taken to Pentonville and thence to Brixton. After a week was brought to the prison

hospital, where he was very ill.

Nov. Was released and had a very nice breakfast in
21st Mrs. Fintan Murphy's house.

The "Daily News" of Nov. 30th says:

It is an easy thing to laugh at Mr. Ginnell, but as it happens the laugh was on his side yesterday, because he is learned in Celtic matters. Many years ago he wrote an excellent book on the Brehon Laws, the ancient jurisprudence of Ireland, antedating the British Constitution by centuries.

Sir John Dickenson reported to The Speaker that Mr. Ginnell's offence was "a false statement". Mr. Ginnell's reply was perfect and carried the whole house. "I wrote" he declared amid loud cheers and laughter, "in the language which was universal in this country before the Romans came. And this is the only Allied country where a member of the Legislature would be imprisoned for writing his name in his own language".

1917 Jasper Tully wrote saying he had been pressed to
Jan. contest North Roscommon and asking would L.G. support him.
12th

13th Mrs. G. went to Oxford to see Count and Countess Plunkett, who were deported there, to find out if the Count had been approached with reference to contesting North Roscommon and if he had consented to become a candidate. The answer was "yes" to both questions.

17th He left London by night train for Boyle. Two rival motor cars met him - George Tully's and Fr. Ml. Flanagan's. He went in Tully's, but had a "very unsatisfactory" interview with Jasper. Mrs. Tully's hotel and two other hotels refused to admit him and he had to stay in a private house.

19th Another unsatisfactory interview with Tully. In view of all he owed Mr. Tully for his invaluable support

in the past, it was extremely painful not to be able to support him now.

Jan.
28th

The biggest meeting of the election campaign was to be held at Elphin to-day. There were to have been sports also, which had to be abandoned as a result of the heavy snow. Louis Walsh, O'Doherty and he set out from Boyle on a car, which was only able to go a quarter of a mile. Mr. Walsh and he walked the rest of the way to Elphin, reaching there at 2.30 p.m.

Confident that they would not be disappointed and that "somehow" some one would manage to get through, the people had waited patiently.

The "Irish Independent" reported as follows on 29.1.1917: -

"North Roscommon is snow-bound, some drifts around Boyle being said to be 10 feet deep, and arrangements for meetings in the Constituency fell through in most cases. One of the picturesque features was Mr. Ginnell's walk to Frenchpark, 10 miles from Boyle, to speak on behalf of Count Plunkett".

Article in "The Leader" by Louis Walsh about the walk also.

Candidates nominated: T.J. Devine, Irish Party Candidate,
Jasper Tully, Independent,
Count Plunkett, Sinn Féin.

Feb.
5th

North Roscommon Election result: -

Plunkett	3022
Devine	1708
Tully	687.

15th

Conference at Count Plunkett's house - small, only 15 in number, and apparently none of those suggested

by either Arthur Griffith or L.G. were invited. Count Plunkett was firm for a policy of complete abstention from Westminster. Nearly everyone else favoured a policy of withdrawal when a sufficient number had been elected to make the withdrawal effective. In this division of opinion nothing was done.

April
13th Received a telegram asking him to go to Longford to support the candidature of Joe McGuinness. He went and addressed a few meetings next day, returned to Dunlaoghaire by the night mail train, leaving about 2 a.m. and thence to London.

May
4th Again requested by A. Griffith and others to go to Longford, which he did.

8th Telegram sent by L.G. to his wife: "Party fighting for their lives with porter and stones. Clean manhood and womanhood will prevail".

Letter from L.G. to his wife says:

"We will win, but here in Longford town an attempt is being made to terrify timid men from voting at all. Police protect the ruffians."

Letter to L.G. from McGuinness Committee rooms:

"Word has just reached us that a mob has been organised to attack you on leaving the hotel. In the circumstances we would suggest that it might be best not to leave the hotel this evening.

H.C. Wilson, Hon. Sec."

10th Election result: McGuinness 1498
Mr. Kenna 1461

30th Young Fintan Murphy and Dr. MacCartan called. Dr. MacCartan is to try to get to Russia to present Ireland's case before the new Republic and young Fintan

came to carry papers in case Dr. MacCartan was recognised and searched.

Out of some names like Gavan-Duffy he was chosen by the Russian, Dr. J. O'Garvansky, the medium of communication between Ireland and Russia, to identify Dr. MacCartan.

1917
June

Gave our house to the house-agents for sale.

June
22nd

On receipt of a telegram from Joe MacDonagh that he was wanted in Clare at once, he went off this evening.

30th

Letter from L.G. to his wife from the Old ~~Gaoblyd~~ Hotel, Ennis, :

"De Valera and myself addressed four meetings in the country before the Ennis one. A great houseful of us here these days - 60 at breakfast, all like brothers.

Make a big effort to sell house, even at a sacrifice. We are taking a plunge involving financial risk, but God is good".

July
11th

Election result: de Valera 5010
Lynch 2035

15th

Big and historic meeting in Mullingar in which he asked the permission of his constituents to withdraw from Westminster, which he obtained. Among those who came to the meeting were: Eamon de Valera, Arthur Griffith, J. O'Neill (Irish Citizen Army), S. O'Mara, Darrell Figgis, Dr. Lynn, M. French-Mullen, Mrs. Waddell.

29th

Letter from L.G. to his wife:

"I am going into London this afternoon to work up some connection with the Russian delegates, if possible. Of course the Government will not allow them to go to Ireland. I will put the project before them in the

strongest manner possible and try to get them to do the best in the circumstances. They have not been allowed to attend the peace meeting in London. They are, in effect, prisoners. We must try to get this fact known.

1917
Aug.
16th Countess Markievicz made her first Holy Communion in the Gardiner St. Convent. Mrs. G. was there - the only lay person present at the breakfast in the convent.

Sept.
8th He went to Mitchelstown to address a meeting which was proclaimed, the British military occupying the town. Consequently the promoters sent a car with him to Ballylanders where he got through a garden and backstairs back window into Mr. Crowley's house. There was an "excellent" meeting in the afternoon.

11th Special meeting of National League held and that League was dissolved, its purpose having been served. Its last act was to appoint six delegates to the National Council, of which he was one.

19 A very important meeting of the Provisional National Council - Agenda - Women, Constitution, Whether republican or not.

27th Put up over the house a black flag with an orange, white and green cross in the centre, in mourning for Tom Ashe.

The next door neighbours, from whom permission was wanted to connect the electric light from their house, complained about "the rag" over the house. Katie Moore who was there, pleaded ignorance about any "rag" and was finally able to induce them to give permission for the light to be connected.

1917
Oct.
5th

A lady, Mrs. Hungerford, said that some English people, discussing L.G. with her, said that a prison was no place for him - that a lunatic asylum would be more appropriate.

25th

National Sinn Féin Convention. De Valera was elected President unanimously - Count Plunkett standing down in his favour and Arthur Griffith following suit.

Nov.
22nd

W. Cosgrave and L.G. were elected Hon. Treasurers.

Dec.
19th

At a meeting of Árd Comhairle the following Directors of Departments were elected:

Treasurers	Cosgrave, Ginnell
Organisation	de Valera
Elections	Milroy
Propaganda	Officer Board plus Count Plunkett & John MacNeill
Foreign Affairs	
&	de Valera
Peace Conference	
Agriculture	Frank Lawless
Industries	Brugha, O'Mara
Trade & Commerce	O'Callaghan
Labour	Markievicz and C. Shannon
Food	Diarmuid Lynch
Local Government	Mrs. Wyse-Power, Ald. Kelly
Education	John MacNeill
National Finance	MacDonagh
Irish language	Beasley
Public Health	Drs. Lynn and Hayes
Plebiscite	Dr. Thomas Dillon.

During the months of September, October, November and December, he attended, when in Dublin, the various committees on Constitution, Ireland's Case for the Peace Conference, food, etc., which were held every evening during each week.

1918
Jan.
19th

He went to Dundalk to help in the South Armagh Election - Dr. MacCartan being the Sinn Féin candidate -

who was beaten at the election by Donnelly, who had a majority of 1014.

- 1918
March
2nd Learned that there was a warrant out for his arrest. He went "on his keeping".
- 3rd Got safely to Kilcock where he addressed a meeting and safely away again.
- 4th Their house was searched for him.
- 12th Left with Jos. MacDonagh to go to Waterford by motor and train to help in the election there.
- 15th His description in "Hue and Cry" of this date (19369c)
- 22nd Telegram handed in at Waterford:
"Brisk voting neck and neck so far. Unionists brought from England to vote".
- 23rd Was arrested yesterday at Kilkenny, kept in the local barracks for the night and transferred to Mountjoy to-day.
- 26th Sentenced to six months' imprisonment for his speeches on the land question, which the magistrate described as "not political at all, but merely criminal".

His wife succeeded in getting into the Black Maria and went in it with him to the gates of Mountjoy.
- 27th Not being treated as a political prisoner, he started hunger-striking.
- 29th Given political treatment, the hunger strike ended.
- Aug.
29th He was released from Mountjoy this morning, re-arrested at the jail gate and conveyed to Arbour Hill.

As the re-arrest was thought likely, there was to have been a rescue, but for some reason or other no attempt at such a thing was made, though some Volunteers were at the jail gates. In the evening he was brought from Arbour Hill to Reading Jail. In the jail he wrote "Ireland's case for freedom".

Sept. 10th He wrote to the Home Secretary with reference to the serious condition of W. Cosgrave's health.

Dec. 6th Notice posted up in the prison hall that candidates will be allowed to issue election addresses through the censor.

10th The prisoners sent a joint letter, secretly via Dublin, to President Wilson.

On the instructions of Mr. James O'Mara, Director of Elections, Mrs. Ginnell went down to Westmeath. Seeing the confusion that reigned there, she had to take on the position of Election Agent, the first woman in the British Isles to occupy that position.

1919
March 7th W. Cosgrave and L.G. arrived in Dublin from Reading. There was no kind of a reception in Dublin but "a fair crowd in Mullingar and flags were up as we approached Kilbride". There was also a bonfire at Kilbride and the Kilbride Band played.

While in Reading Jail he wrote his "Bunracht", suggesting that each voter should have two votes - a regional one as at present and a vocational one to cover the whole country for the various professions, trades, businesses, skilled and unskilled labour. That may have given the idea of the vocational Senate.

1919 Was appointed by the Dáil executive to take charge
 March
 20th of Propaganda at £300 per year.

 Was also appointed by the Sinn Féin Executive to
 take charge of their propaganda.

May
 6th Addressed a proclaimed meeting in Athlone, where
 there were soldiers with fixed bayonets.

30th He was arrested on arrival at Amiens St. Station
 on his return from Glasgow. Five G. men brought the
 news to Mrs. G. and searched his rooms.

31st Mrs. G. went to the Bridewell but was told Mr. G.
 had gone to Athlone. Went by the 1.30 train to
 Mullingar where she was told that "the trial" was just
 over and that L.G. was remanded for a week for a speech
 made at Delvin - the day Fr. O'Flanagan went down and the
 hall was refused them.

June
 3rd Remanded in Athlone for a week for the Athlone
 speech.

4th Mrs. G. went to Mountjoy but was not allowed to
 see her husband.

7th His wife went to Mullingar for the trial and was
 down in the same train as her husband. There were three
 carriages full of "peelers". Last week they brought him
 down from Dublin by motor, handcuffed. He was sentenced
 to four months imprisonment for the Delvin speech.

10th Plans were made to intercept the Crown Prosecutor -
 Dowdall - not to let him appear that day, but apparently
 they did not work. Owen Sweeney and Dillon were tried

but L.G. was not brought down at all.

1919
Sept.
4th

He was released unexpectedly.

30th

He went to Aran Islands for health reasons, as a restful place remote from roar, where Fr. Farragher had a meeting in the chapel yard to welcome him to Aran.

Health not at all good.

Oct.
25th

Left Aran, but returned again on doctor's advice on 7th November.

1920
March
1st

He returned from Aran to Dublin.

27th

He was arrested at about 2.15 a.m., the house being completely surrounded by military. The previous day he had gone for the first time since his release to the National Library and the authorities may have concluded that he was going to become "active" again.

The officers found some samples of treated peat with which the Scotch Express had been run as an experiment. They thought they had something very interesting from their point of view and could not understand why we both laughed. They took the sample with them.

A guest in the house, Miss M. O'C., was in bed, but of course awake. Mrs. G. went to her room and asked her to get up quickly and take some detonators off the mantel piece in the sitting room. "What are detonators?" asked she?!

28th

Mrs. G. called to the Bridewell but was not allowed to see him.

1920
March
28th

("Evening Herald" 27th March).

Dr. Kathleen Lynn and Mrs. Ginnell interviewed General Boyd, G.O.C. Dublin District, in the Castle Yard. He was courteous, invited both to lunch, while his wife "looked daggers". He said he would do what he could. Naturally the invitation to lunch was declined.

31st

He was released owing to the state of his health, having been called before the Governor of Mountjoy, who had been instructed to read for him the warrant for his release, which stated that his release was without prejudice to his further committal. ("Evening Telegraph" April 1st).

July
9th

After various consultations and arrangements and as his health would not stand any more imprisonment, he left with his wife for Liverpool on his way to the U.S.A., via Montreal, under the names of, I think, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, and arrived in Montreal on July 20th. ("Montreal Star" July 20th).

We met Miss Kathleen Hughes, Mrs. and Miss Sheridan and Mr. Lindsay Crawford and other friends.

26th

Reached New York via the Summer School at Plattsburg, which is just over the border from Canada and where we stayed a day or two.

Went to Washington to see Mr. de Valera.

31st

Went to Cincinnati, where we met for the first time the Castellini family who are such staunch friends of Ireland.

- 1920
Aug.
18th Reached Chicago, which is to be our headquarters,
and from which the whole of the Middle-West was to have
been worked with Mr. J.C. Walsh doing the organising.
- Sept.
8th Called on Archbishop Mundelein, who was most
friendly.
- 17th Meeting of the Council of Friends of Irish
Freedom in Waldorf Hotel, New York, where de Valera was
staying. After consideration it was decided to go down
to the meeting, if invited. He was invited and Mr. and
Mrs. G. accompanied him. Bishop Gallagher presided.
Mayor Grey (?) deliberately insulted de Valera and he and
we left the meeting, which soon afterwards broke up in
disorder.
- Towards the end of the month he went on a tour of
the Middle West organised by Mr. J.C. Walsh.
- Oct.
19th He had to write "strongly" to Mr. James O'Mara,
head of the Irish Mission in U.S.A., with reference to
payment of his expenses. There was some difficulty
about the matter.
- 30th Requiem Mass in the Cathedral for Terence MacSwiney.
Archbishop Mundelein delivered a beautiful panegyric.
- Dec.
2nd Took offices at 127 N. Dearborn Street, Chicago.
Also started the Irish Relief and Reconstruction Fund.
A campaign was also inaugurated to get Americans to boycott
English manufacture, Insurance Companies, etc. A weekly
bulletin of events in Ireland was also issued free to
anyone who would post it up in a prominent place. By
degrees very many Catholic clergymen asked for copies which

they put up in the porches of their churches.

Dec.
26th

Mrs. G. went by midnight train to New York to get Mrs. Terence MacSwiney to come to Chicago to accept the freedom and hospitality of the City. She would have liked to come, but her passage was booked home and Harry Boland said he had strict orders that she was not to be detained. It was a great disappointment to the friends of Ireland in Chicago, as it would have been a kind of civil recognition.

Note made by Mrs. Ginnell: "President de Valera returned to Ireland, broken-hearted, I think. Devoy and Cohalan were great disappointments. They too have been cut off and the Clan na Gael is being gradually purified".

Extract of letter received from her father, as to events at home: -

Kilbride, Nov. 28th -

We have had lively times since I wrote last. Tom Noonan, Dan Grehan and P. Brett, all County Councillors, have been arrested. B.J. Carroll's house was raided by Black and Tans and his cheque books carefully examined. The next night we were aroused by loud knocks at the hall door. I looked out and saw a group of Black and Tans standing at the hall door and hurried down to open it. They rushed into the hall with rifles "at the present", lighted candles, trooped into the parlour and began searching the book-case first. Another group went into the breakfast room and began searching another press. I was greatly amused as all the old account books and business letter books were there and I knew the searcher had a stiff job to wade through 30 or 40 books of manuscript. Another group was in the kitchen. They came across our cheque book on the Ulster Bank and I was interested to observe that they carefully examined the blocks. Then they went upstairs and examined nearly everything, except a trunk of Georgie's that they could not open without smashing. They tried to get keys to fit it, but had none and left it. The leader seemed to have a little sense of decency and I have no reason to complain of their method of examining things. Going away, I followed to see them off and found an empty cartridge on the flower-pot. I gave it to the leader saying:

"If you come again, you might find this and be worried about it". He laughed. They walked off. They found nothing.

Kilbride, December 3rd -

We are moving in very exciting times here and though the times are exciting, the people are very cool and determined. I think I told you Noonan and Brett, County Councillors, are in jail, also Gaffney, Co. Councillor, and Robins and Hurley are on the run. In the absence of these men the Council, I hear, ratted yesterday led by P.J. Weymes and a few others and pledged allegiance to the L.G.B. I'm not yet sure of this but think it probable. The trouble mainly is to get the Councils to break their pledge to Dáil Éireann, but this difficulty is ahead of them, that although the Councils may give way, the people won't and there will be a very big job for the Castle collectors to collect either rates or taxes throughout the country. It seems therefore that the times are likely to become livelier still.

So far as my observation goes, the tactics of the Dáil authorities in cutting off the Local Government Board and other Government Departments is giving the English more serious trouble than anything else. They are at their wits' ends and fear it will develop into repudiating the Land Commission. A few days ago, Mr. P. Beresford came on his annual inspection of the Mullingar Union and was proceeding through the house when a body of Volunteers took him by the shoulder and put him outside the gate saying: "You have no business here - be off with yourself". This is Mullingar!

1921
Feb.
23rd The Illinois State Council, without consulting us, decided to amalgamate with the All-American Committee for Relief in Ireland: that is to extinguish our Chicago fund for Relief and Reconstruction.

March
2nd It was decided that he should go on a speaking tour in the Southern States.

April
18th National Convention of the American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic. "It was a wonderful success for those who did not see behind the scenes, but there were some fireworks which were not at all necessary".

- 1921
May
4th Received a letter from Harry Boland offering credentials for South America if he would accept them.
- 5th Left for New York this evening for two purposes: - to see H. Boland with reference to his going to South America and in connection with James O'Mara's resignation.
- 20th Closed our Relief Fund and had it audited - \$ /59,058.42 - £14, 726, and issued auditors' report to the entire fund.
- 31st His booklet, "Ireland's Case for Freedom" was copyrighted.
- June
10th We took our first lesson in Spanish.
- 22nd Obtained at the Argentine Embassy, Washington, a Diplomat's passport to Argentina.
- 26th Attended a meeting in honour of Simon Bolivar at the monument to him in Central Park, New York, spoke and laid a wreath on the monument.
- July
3rd Harry Boland, Seán Nunan and Jos. Begley saw us off on the "Martha Washington" for South America, where he was to act as "Envoy Extraordinary to the Governments and Peoples of South America".
- Put up a notice for a Spanish teacher, found one on the ship and continued our Spanish lessons.
- A trifling incident worth recording, perhaps, as seeming to show that "coming events cast their shadows before" - H. Boland remarked to Mrs. Ginnell on the pier in New York "You seem very reluctant to go on board that boat" and she replied "I am", though she did not think her reluctance showed.

Another thing of the same kind - Lord Mayor Lce. O'Neill of Dublin, before returning home from the U.S.A. asked if there was any message for President de Valera and she replied "Tell him that I don't like going to South America".

1921
July
10th A wireless report says that a truce has been signed in Ireland and that de Valera and Lloyd George are negotiating.

Had that news come before we left, we would have been headed for home and not for South America.

20th Reached Rio de Janeiro, went ashore and visited Mr. Buckley and Mr. Corbett.

25th Arrived in Buenos Aires and were met by Monsignor Wssher, Eamonn Bulfin and Gerald Foley, editor of the "Southern Cross".

28th To our great surprise a young man called yesterday to tell L.G. that he was officially invited to attend the Te Deum in the Cathedral the next day in honour of Peruvian Independence! He attended and reviewed the procession from the balcony of the Circulo Militar.

There would' seem to be a split in the friends of Ireland in the Argentine also. "I am afraid that it is more important than I thought" A.G. wrote.

30th Mr. MacConastair, who was in Reading Jail with L.G. called and told us that the hotel, Savoy, was English owned and that there were likely to be spies here - he also hinted at dictaphones. Mr. MacManus mentioned the same thing.

1921
Aug.
2nd' John Nelson and his son called to-day. John Nelson is said to be the wealthiest man in Argentina, is a strong Irish Republican and offered to do anything he could.

Someone told us that the English Ambassador, with whom he used to dine and hunt, said to him one day: "What on earth is that fellow Ginnell doing here - upsetting things?, and that Mr. Nelson answered "He is as much an Ambassador as you are", at which the English Ambassador was shocked and said: "Surely you don't mean that"?, and that Mr. Nelson replied "I do".

4th There was an unfair leading article in "La Nacion" and a notice in "La Prensa" about his letter having been delivered to the Foreign Office and also reporting a visit by the British Ambassador to the Foreign Minister.

Mr. Bohem called about a reception they are arranging for us. He is to try to get on the cards of invitation "to meet the Envoy of the Republic of Ireland and Mrs. Ginnell". He also told us that "La Nacion" had reserved two columns for him when he came first but that he was a little indiscreet in calling Lloyd-George two-faced and of course they could not publish that!

5th Was to lay a wreath on the tomb of General San Martin. A delegation of gentlemen called. It seems there was a great deal of fuss with the Cathedral authorities and the Museum Authorities about opening the tomb, though they said yesterday, it seems, that they would open it. However, they did open it finally. He read his speech in Spanish which greatly impressed the people present, and then laid a beautiful wreath on the tomb with the inscription "El Gobierno y el

pueblo de Irlanda al General San Martin, en cuyas filas se formó la legión irlandesa".

The dean of the Cathedral liked the wreath very much and thought Ireland should be free, though he did not know much about it.

The head of the Associated Press called with reference to his letter to Pueyrredon. It seems the London Foreign Office are greatly exercised over the matter and informed the Press Association, which naturally cabled it on here, that the Argentine Government would be making itself as ridiculous as L.G. if they acceded to his request to be received as a diplomat. The representative wanted to know if he really asked to be received as a diplomat and thought he would be very vexed at the cable from London. He was greatly surprised when we both laughed and L.G. said that nothing would please him better than to have that telegram published in the papers to-morrow morning, because it was vulgar and an insult to the Argentine Government.

We were both somewhat worried, though, in case the Government here were irritated.

1921
Aug.
12th Got an official invitation to the Te Deum in the San Domingo Church on the 115th anniversary of the Reconquest (from England), where the captured English flags are. The Irish Republican Flag was the only foreign flag in evidence outside the Cathedral.

13th Issued to-day the communication from Dáil Éireann to all members of the Senate and to all Deputies.

1921 Officially received by the Passionists at their
 Aug. Holy Cross Church for High Mass for Ireland.
 14th

The sermon welcomed him in his official and private capacity.

In the evening the Associated Press man rang up to say there was a cable from London to say that the correspondence between de Valera and Lloyd George was published and that de Valera's reply was much less favourable than was hoped. Mrs. G. went down to his office to see the cables with Mr. Mulgrave. He also showed us the one he was sending off about our cable to de Valera. He added to his that L.G. was not yet received by Pueyrredon but that he (L.G.) insisted that he would be received either privately or officially. After a great tussle with him Mrs. G. got him to omit the part about L.G.'s insistence on his reception either officially or privately.

Mrs. G. thinks that the Associated Press man is inclined to play fair.

17th A great social reception given us in the Plaza Hotel by all the important Irish-Argentinians.

The "Irish Republican League" wrote saying that they could not have anything to do with the anti-republican reception this afternoon, about which they were not consulted and that there must be some mistake.

At the reception the band played the National Anthem and then the Soldiers' Song.

18th Had a private audience with the Foreign Minister, Pueyrredon, to-day, who was very friendly and very

courteous.. He said that the Argentine could not be the first to recognise the Irish Republic. He also said that bonds could not be publicly issued without the consent of Congress. On the whole the visit was a little disappointing.

Aug.
19th

Went to see Mr. Nelson about starting a bond drive. Mr. Nelson was not very favourable but said he would bring him to see Mr. Lawlor, the man who, it appears, does most of the business for the Irish community. They first called on Dr. O'Farrell who said that the bonds L.G. showed him (U.S.A. ones) were all right and would sell. Mr. Lawlor thought it was not business at all and went so far that Nelson had to defend the idea.

20th

Sent a cable to Chicago asking Garth Healy to come to Argentina in connection with the proposed bond drive.

21st

The papers to-day, particularly "La Prensa", carried the English Government plans of what it was going to do if the peace terms were not accepted by Ireland - martial law, passports to and from Ireland, finger-prints of every individual, etc. (Lloyd George's "immediate and terrible war".)

Mr. MacConastair came to help us to get out a poster with the British Government's threats. The poster was put up all over the city, sent to provincial centres and put up there, annoying the British Ambassador, who made a speech denouncing it and thereby calling more attention to it. It was with some difficulty the municipality agreed to put up the poster.

There was a letter warning us against Lassare (?) - a good worker - and then in the evening Lassare called and told us that Mr. Thorne - another good friend - told him always to carry a revolver - that Mr. Quesada was going to shoot him! All members of the Argentine Committee for Irish Liberty!

1921
Aug.
25th

Cablegram from James O'Mara, Chicago, that he had no instructions about bonds and that he could not spare Garth Healy and suggesting that Dublin be consulted on both these points, which was done.

Had a long interview this evening with a man whose name, I think, is Naas, who claims to have been the intermediary between Casement and the German government. He is now in the office of what would appear to be a general news agency for provincial and foreign papers.

27th

Had a very busy day getting out to the papers parts of the speech made in the Brazilian Congress on receipt of the communication from Dáil Éireann of last July, which reached us last night from Mr. Jos. Begley.

The poster (August 21st) is intriguing a lot of people. Some people say it was got up by MacManus (who, incidentally, does not approve of us), that it has all his fire, others that it was by the Argentine Committee for the Liberty of Ireland, and others again that it was got out by the diplomatic mission and others that the diplomatic mission should stop it.

30th

Mr. Faherty, whom we met at the reception, had dinner with us. He is going to try to get the Dáil's message read in Congress some day and to have L.G. there on that day. He is also going to canvas a lot

of the members. If he succeeds in making a good showing, it will have been worth the dinner!

1921
Sept.
1st "The Herald" had a report of the British Ambassador's speech at a meeting of the British Society last night, heading its report with "Pro-Sinn Féin Poster". The British Ambassador made a fierce attack on the poster, calling it "propaganda of hate" and infamous lies which could not be tolerated. We suggested to the Argentine Committee for the Liberty of Ireland that they should in some way reply to the attack, and they are going to do so.

Sept.
2nd The reply to the British Minister was published in "The Herald" this morning and also a long leading article, denouncing the lies, etc.

3rd Received a cablegram from Michael Collins asking how much money we expected to raise by the Irish Republican bonds and to make a definite proposal. We did.

5th Eamonn Bulfin received a cablegram from Robert Brennan that there would be an Irish Race Convention in Paris or Dublin on 21st January and that the Dáil invites five people from Argentina.

6th Lunch, at which the starting of the bond drive was discussed. Present: Monsignor Ussher, Mr. Nelson, Patrick Dowling, Thos. Moore, Jas. Bohan.

15th The British are, apparently, trying to suggest a split between de Valera and Collins.

Mrs. Corless wrote from New York that she

thought the secret of the negotiations is Lloyd George's anxiety to go to a conference in Washington and to bring about an Anglo-American Union and that America is being flooded with union propaganda.

1921
Sept.
17th Visited the Passionists at Cap. Sarmiento. We were given seats in front of the High Altar at High Mass on Sunday and had lunch at the Monastery, at which Bishop Capello spoke eloquently on behalf of the Irish Republic.

18th The Bishop also preached at High Mass and prayed for Ireland.

On arrival we were met by the Sinn Féin Army - *all* little youngsters with imitation rifles and green caps and a band. There was a long procession of cars after us.

There was a fair and a concert and celebrations generally, which was very well attended, in honour of the Jubilee of the Rector.

20th Mr. P.J. Little arrived from South Africa. His instructions were not to interfere with L.G.'s work but to find out all he could about the political situation here and in South America generally.

21st Monsignor Ussher called and told us that the Secretary of the Papal Nuncio said that de Valera was cleverer than Lloyd George - that he was the cleverest statesman in Europe.

24th Cablegram from Dublin authorising us to go ahead with the Republican Bond Drive for half a million pounds and asking what additional staff would be required.

1921
Sept.
29th Mrs. Wm. Morgan from Montevideo called to-day.
The whole Morgan family were always staunch friends of
Ireland.

Oct.
1st Our bond advertisement appeared in "La Prensa"
this morning, while "La Nacion" refused it. Harrods,
Buenos Aires, who advertise extensively in "La Prensa"
threatened to withdraw their advertisements if "La Prensa"
gave publicity to our bond drive, but "La Prensa" took
no notice.

2nd In Rosario. Miss Anita Bulfin and Mr. Revilla,
the new Spanish private secretary, came with us. There
was a great banner of the Argentine Committee for
Liberty facing us at the station and a great crowd of all
kinds to meet us. A little girl presented Mrs. G. with
a lovely bouquet of flowers. After a while we got out
of the station and walked up the streets. It was
interesting and amazing to watch the faces of the people
on the sidewalks and in the houses, wondering what on
earth it was all about. Miss Bulfin said she felt like
"a Salvation Army less"! After a while we noticed that
we had mounted police and several carriages in the
procession.

On Sunday we had Mass in Fr. Sheehy's Church and
a kind of reception afterwards in St. Patrick's Hall,
which has a photograph of William Bulfin, father of Eamon
and Anita.

After lunch there was to have been a tennis
tournament, which did not come off, because the players or
their friends were employed in English houses and they

were afraid they would lose their jobs if they appeared. It seems that some railway officials who the owners of the railway (English) thought would attend the general festivities and whom they could not very well prevent from doing so, were sent away on some business or other just for the time.

In the evening there was a banquet at which about 100 guests were present, including the Vice-Governor, the Mayor, the Secretary representing the Chief of Police and only four ladies, including Anita and A.G. The table was simply beautiful. Because she could speak Spanish, Miss Bulfin sat beside the Vice-Governor. At first he was a very difficult proposition, because he felt that he should not have come. "He didn't think it would be so official". Miss Bulfin said afterwards ~~wards~~ "I think if I succeeded in making him talk, I could make anyone talk".

L.G. read his speech in Spanish and it was well received. Someone said afterwards that no Englishman would think of doing that.

The Vice Governor and other officials went away immediately after L.G.'s speech, presumably so that they would not have to speak.

Next day, Monday, L.G. called on the Vice Governor and other people and was well received.

Oct.
7th

A cablegram came to Eamon Bulfin from Robert Brennan, saying that his scheme for issuing a bulletin was approved and that they were cabling £1,000.

On the 5th there was to have been a banquet by the Argentine Committee but having heard nothing about it

we thought it was off until Lassarre called to invite L. to attend. At first L.G. said he would not go, but he did. Lassarre was very vexed. At any rate when Revilla appeared at the door he would not be let in, and of course we blamed Lassarre for it.

It looks as if we were going to have trouble in that quarter. Perhaps the Committee hauled Lassarre over the coals for the banquet, at which there were only about 28 people present!

Oct.
8th

Mr. Little, Mr. & Mrs. G., Anita Bulfin and Revilla started for Mercedes. There was a fairly good crowd at the station and two little boys presented a bouquet of flowers.

On Sunday we visited two convents and after Mass went to Kelly's for a picnic lunch. They roasted a sheep on spits at an open-air fire and there were about fourteen sides roasting at the same time. Eamon Bulfin, Mr. and Mrs. Mulgrave and others came in from Buenos Aires for a hurling match.

We had a policeman detailed to guard us with instructions not to let "el senor Ministro" out of his sight, and faithfully did he follow them. He was at the door of the hotel in the early morning when Mrs. G. first looked out. It seemed strange to see him standing to attention.

Oct.
11th

We decided to have a reception in the Savoy on the 27th instant, a public meeting on the 29th and to try to have Masses for the dead who died for Ireland in a good many churches on November 2nd.

1921 Fr. Constantine, Provincial of the Passionists,
 Oct. called about the Masses on 2nd November and said he thought
 12th it would be all right.

A.G. writes: "I must admire L's constancy - never, giving up, no matter what discouragement he meets and tackling a situation instead of being downed by it".

15th Attended an entertainment in the Basque Club.

18th Heard that McGlynn (?) was very angry and was saying round in the clubs that something must be done to stop this Irish propaganda.

19th A meeting of the Bond Trustees and Executive Council. Every possible obstacle that could have been raised was raised. They wanted the meeting postponed - our Bulletin was a disgrace - a paper should be started, etc. L.G. was very tired after it. Mr. Nelson was not present because, it seems, the notice did not reach him. Mr. Bohan told L.G. afterwards that he, Mr. Bohan, was afraid that L.G. would have many days like this and that he must not be disappointed if his council deserted him and did not come to the meeting - they were all afraid, etc. etc.

L.G. heard that the English had got control of a hitherto independent newspaper and were going to start a new paper within the next two months.

Oct. L.G. called to see Mr. Nelson, who cheered him up
 20th wonderfully. Mr. Nelson said he was not well himself and was only waiting for the meeting to be over to have an operation.

1921
Oct.
27th

Mr. Bohlen came in with a long string of complaints about the post, about the Trustees not being consulted - that Mr. Ginnell had everything cut and dried for them and their opinion was never asked - they were never shown his credentials and I don't know what else - that some of them were going to break away, etc.

Our reception was held at five o'clock. Everyone said it was a great success. A.G. told Mr. Nelson all about the complaints and he said he would try to put things plainly to them.

Oct.
29th

A.G. wrote: "The more I see of the Argentine, the more I realise how well it is to have anyone of the name of Bulfin connected with us".

Public meeting in the Teatro Coliseo to launch our bonds. Messrs. Dowling, Moore and Nelson called to the office in the morning. None of them wanted to go on the platform for the meeting and Mr. Nelson said that he would not be well enough to attend. Mr. Little is to act as Chairman.

It was not true what Mr. Bohlen said the other day about the Trustees not having been consulted regarding the Executive Council. Every name was submitted to them, that the list of names was in front of Monsignor Ussher in the Savoy Hotel and that one name was crossed off.

Senor Frugone (?), the National Deputy, telephoned this morning to say that as his name was not announced as one of the speakers there was no occasion for him to go on the platform!

1921 The speakers were: L.G., Mr. O'Sullivan, Fr.
 Oct.
 29th Nepal (?) and Dr. Quesada. Col. Oliden read a resolution.
 L.G. spoke first in Spanish and then in English.
 Everyone said he had done well to have done that.
 Everyone seems satisfied with the result, except A.G.
 who thought it was not properly organised but did not
 know where the fault lay and thought also that the hall
 could have been filled to overflowing.

Mr. Little said something about forming a new
 organisation and the Circulo - which mustered about five
 men all told - said that if a new organisation was formed
 it would be a challenge to them - that there was a
 republican organisation and that it was up to everyone
 to join it.

Fr. Flannery returned his box at the very last
 moment without even a "Thank you".

Mr. Nelson turned in rather late at the meeting
 but he was really sick, A.G. believes. Messrs. Dowling,
 Moore and Bohen were present. Mr. Bohen seemed to be
 pleased, although he said there were some people
 conspicuous by their absence.

31st Col. Oliden wrote saying he found himself mixed up
 in a dispute between Mr. Thorne and Dr. Quesada and that
 he did not agree with the action of the President - Mr.
 Thorne - therefore he returned the receipt book .

Nov.
 1st Mr. William Morgan called. While he was with us
 Dr. Seballus (?), who published an article on L.G.'s
 "Brehon Laws" in his "Revista", left his card.

1921
Nov.
2nd

Attended a Solemn Requiem Mass in Holy Cross for those who died for Ireland. The altar was beautiful and there was a coffin draped with the Republican colours. Fr. O'Connell preached - a very useful sermon which ought to have some effect on the weak-kneed. None of the Trustees was in a place of prominence.

There were Requiem Masses all over Argentina for those who died for Ireland.

Nov.
5th

Left with Mr. Wm. Morgan and Mr. Revilla for San Antonio de Areco, where we got a very nice welcome from the "Blue Sisters" in the Hospital Maria Morgan, where we are to stay.

Fr. Gearty, a very staunch friend of Ireland and others met us at the Station.

6th

Mr. Wm. Morgan's mother, 82 years of age, drove in 5 or 6 miles to be at Mass with us. She is very lovable. It is lovely to see how attentive to ^{her} her/grown-up sons were.

After Mass there was a meeting in the Square, at which Dr. Quesada spoke, Mr. O'Sullivan and others. Then there was a long concert and afterwards dinner and a dance.

7th

Mass in the Parish Church, draped in purple with the inscription over the Sanctuary: A las victimas de la tyrannia inglesa".

Drove out to Mrs. Morgan's Estancia and had tea with her, her sister, Miss Mooney, her grand-daughter and Wm. and Francis Morgan.

The nuns in the Convent were most kind and friendly and we said we would sometime come back again. Fr. Gearty too was more than kind and helpful.

Nov. 8th Busy trying to get up Pearse's play "The Singer" and "The Rising of the Moon" for next Saturday. Also a Conference is coming off to try to get delegates for Paris.

Mr. Ganly has resigned from the "Circulo irlandes" in disgust.

16th Letter from Mr. O'Mara, U.S.A., saying that Harry Boland had returned home and that what they were hoping for was "an external treaty with a united Ireland".

"La Union" has changed its policy. It does not see that it does itself any good by attacking England.

17th Eamon Bulfin suggested the desirability of starting a monthly sheet in the nature of a newspaper, but not to be sent out by the Mission ostensibly nor to give much Mission news.

L.G. cordially approves of the idea of the monthly paper.

19th A play in the Florida Theatre, given by the Bulfins, Mulgrave and a few others. The whole thing very creditable and successful. - "The Singer" and "The Rising of the Moon".

21st Visited Venado Tuerto.

1921
Nov.
23rd Talking about organisers, Eamon Bulfin thinks he ought to go out himself. He appeared rather moved when L.G. said "it is very good of you to do that".

26th At a suggestion from Monsignor Ussher (made at Mrs. G.'s request) Monsignor Ussher suggested that L.G., not having been at all well, should go away for a few days' rest. He agreed and went to the Monastery at Cap. Sarmiento.

The Shuilers' Dramatic Society gave a little dinner which was very nice and Mrs. G. was formally made President.

27th At their meeting yesterday the St. Joseph's Society decided not to send delegates to the first Irish Convention in Argentina.

29th First Irish Argentine Convention held in Irish Girls' Home - about 90 delegates present and "all things considered" might be said to be a success. Mr. Wm. Morgan was Chairman.

A Standing Committee for a new organisation was appointed consisting of the Trustees and Irish members of the Consultative Council, Irish diplomatic Mission, Frs. Victor and E. O'Connell, C.P.'s, Messrs. Grehan and Kelly, Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Bohen, Mrs. Mulvihill and Miss O'Doherty were appointed.

Mr. Wm. Morgan bought a 500 dollar bond.

Dec.
1st First meeting of the New Standing Committee - very successful. At last people are showing some signs of wakening up.

Dec. 2nd L.G. not at all well. He seems to be beginning to realise that he cannot hold out much longer.

3rd We left for San Antonio de Areco for a rest. Sometimes I (A.G.) wonder how long more L.G. can last.

6th Still in San Antonio. The astonishing news came to-day that "the Irish question was settled".

7th Eamon Bulfin phoned that Ireland was to be "the Free State of Ireland and that the oath of allegiance was to be to the Free State of Ireland and to King George".

The papers came in sometime afterwards and amplified the terms, which do not seem to be anything to rejoice over, but of course it is the English version of them we got.

There are a lot of complicated regulations about Ulster also, but Ireland seems to have been dealt with as a whole.

The House of Commons and Dáil Éireann have to ratify the terms.

L.G. says that there is one fatal defect in the terms, viz that on the oath of allegiance to the Constitution of the Free State, the words are mentioned "as by law enacted" - which means English law.

An Irish nun - Sister of Mercy - said on hearing of the terms "There must be a bit of an Englishman in the Lord".

1921
Dec.
8th

The more I (A.G.) think of these terms the more I dislike them and that it would now be time for L.G. to withdraw from public life or at any rate not to take the oath to the King.

It is either that the delegates have been tricked or that the treaty was signed so that the Dáil could reject the terms and that de Valera could recommend them to reject them.

In the "Nacion" this morning there is just one bit of cheering news and that is a communication from Dáil Éireann Publicity Department that in view of the nature of the supposed agreement between Gt. Britain and Ireland, de Valera called on the London delegates to return immediately and to give him details, so that there can be a meeting of the Cabinet to pass a resolution. It was the first ray of hope.

A.G. went with Mrs. Morgan on the pilgrimage to Lujan and thence to Buenos Aires.

In honour of Mr. Little we had a dinner in the Galleria. At the dinner some one sang a "rebel" song and either Miss Bulfin or A.G. said "We can give up singing these songs now" - at which Mr. Little said that if that is the way the women of Ireland feel about the Treaty it won't be much of a success.

9th This morning's papers have it that de Valera said he could not recommend the terms to the country.

Later in the day there was a cablegram from Bob Brennan saying "Await instructions make no pronouncement

Dáil meeting 14th December^m.

Mr. Nelson called to say that he sent his telegram of congratulation to L.G. before he saw the terms but that now he withdraws it and that he did not agree to his name being put to the cablegram sent by Santiago O'Farrell to Lloyd George and de Valera and that he would repudiate it in to-morrow's papers.

11th Distribution of prizes, given out by L.G. in Cap. Sarmiento. The address of welcome to L.G. was very good, almost pledging support to de Valera.

Fr. Victor told L.G. that he would have to say something about the present position. L.G. said merely that he had every confidence in the man who had guided Ireland's destinies for the past years - Eamon de Valera - and that there were two powers in the world - the power of light and of darkness and which would prevail? Though there might have to be more lives lost he hoped it would not be so. It was very strong and very good.

There is a statement from Art O'Brien that the Irishmen had to sign the agreement under threat of the extermination of their race and that an agreement signed under duress is not binding.

12th Making all allowances for English propaganda the news about Ireland looked very bad and as if there was a serious split.

17th We returned to Sam Antonio, giving up our rooms in the Savoy Hotel.

20th No decision arrived at by Dáil Éireann yet. After

deep consideration and talking things over with Mother Rita, San Antonio, regarding the instructions we got to make no pronouncement regarding the treaty and not wishing to disobey them but still wishing to show where we stood, L.G. sent a cablegram:

"I vote against ratification".

- 1921
Dec.
22nd Dáil Éireann adjourned until 3rd January the Treaty debate.
- 25th Fr. Gearty drove us to Portela, where he said his second Mass. He had a republican flag on his car, which fell off a few times and he said he hoped that that was not an omen. We went to a family named Rattigan for breakfast.
- L.G. seems very unwell.
- 27th A.G. got a very nice letter from Mr. Little from Rio saying that he often thinks of the hard part she has to play and saying that he would do everything possible to arrange things as she wished.
- 30th A.G. had a talk with Mother Rita and told her she had been thinking how dreadful it would be if L.G. died in Argentina and she had to go alone with the coffin to Ireland. Mother Rita said that there would be great difficulty in getting permission to remove his body, - which did not improve the outlook. M. Rita said she ought to set about getting out of the country as soon as possible and write to someone to say how bad L.G. really is.

1922
Jan.
1st

A very lonely day in the Hospital Maria Morgan. A.G. felt it was the last New Year's Day that L.G. would see. All the nuns seemed to feel the same loneliness.

Writing in her (A.G.'s) autograph book, L.G. wished her "unclouded happiness under God's protection and guidance and with my love and respect as long as I live".

A.G. wrote: "I am afraid of this new year that is coming in".

Had lunch with Fr. Gearty and his sister. Some of the Mercy nuns and hospital sisters came over afterwards.

8th

The treaty was accepted by 66 votes to 57 by Dáil Éireann.

Mr. Wm. Morgan called with his mother. The latter is chiefly anxious that no matter what happens L. will not go back to Ireland! She said she would give all she had to prevent that!

A little child who had seen L.G. some place ~~saw~~ him again to-day and told her mother she had seen "the Irish God".

10th

De Valera was up for re-election as President of the Irish Republic and was defeated by 58 votes to 60.

Fr. Gearty's mother, who died in Monte Video, was brought to be buried in San Antonio. We went to the station to meet Fr. Gearty and the coffin.

How strange it was to be going to a wake on the night that de Valera was defeated!

- 1922
Jan.
11th A new Irish cabinet was formed - de Valera's supporters not voting. H. Boland asked if the Free State would recognise Republican bonds and Mr. Collins said he would do his best to repay them.
- 12th A cablegram from the Westmeath County Council calling upon Ginnell to vote for the ratification of the Treaty.
- 13th L.G.'s reasons against the ratification of the Treaty are in to-day's "Herald" handed in by Mr. Revilla yesterday.
- 17th Had a talk with Fr. Gearty about getting home. He said he thought we should wait a while, that surely some instructions would be sent and then to apply direct to the new Government. We said: "Suppose they would not facilitate us"?. That seemed impossible to him.
- L.G. was very depressed and said it was national and personal disaster.
- A very nice summary of L.G.'s reasons against voting for the Treaty appeared in the "Razon".
- The Mercy nuns told us that a great attempt was made by the townspeople to bombard Mr. Revilla with questions but that he never answered a question which he ought not to have answered.
- 21st Mother Rita and A.G. went to the Post Office to send a cable to de Valera to Paris saying that we wished to return home immediately and asking if he could facilitate. It took the three boys in the Post Office, the Postmaster's wife and finally the postmaster himself to send the cable.

- 1922
Jan. 21st Our coachman went for a siesta inside the car while he was waiting for us.
- 24th De Valera cabled from Paris that he was cabling to Dublin and would then reply.
- 25th Some U.S.A. papers arrived. The "Irish World" has come out against the Treaty and publishes L.G.'s telegram. The "Irish Republic" will maintain the cause for which it was founded. Both the "Irish Press" and "The Monitor" refrained from saying anything until they hear the decision of Dáil Éireann and the "San Francisco Leader" thinks it would be impertinent on their part to interfere - they are Americans.
- 26th Mass in Arrecifes for Terence MacSwiney, to which L.G. was not invited and a meeting of the Irish Republican League. 6-700 pesos (?) for the victims of the Black and Tans in Ireland were handed over to Fr. Flannery to be sent to Ireland through John Devoy, to whom a congratulatory telegram was sent on his uncompromising attitude for years past.
- 30th The whole office staff has been paid off, except Eamon who will remain for another month.
- Feb. 1st Fr. Gearty suggested to L.G. that he should form a branch of the Irish International League that was started in Paris by de Valera before he goes away. Mr. Wm. Morgan thought that he had no authority to do that unless specially authorised by de Valera. Anyhow he dropped the idea, leaving the onus on Mr. Bohen and the other delegates.
- 4th Mrs. Morgan went to Uruguay to her son William.

1922
Feb.
4th

Before going away she wrote to Mother Rita not to take any money from L.G. - that she would settle with her on her return! Rev. Mother was told not to mind that.

We saw her off and she said she was wondering if anyone would come and was delighted to see us, saying that all she had in the world was at our disposal.

Mons. Ussher, Mr. Dowling, Mr. Moore and Mr. Wm. Morgan attended the meeting of the Trustees yesterday. They decided to allow the expenses of collection etc. out of the money received. Mr. Wm. Morgan fought the idea for nearly 1½ hours, the balance of the money to be paid back in proportion to buyers of bonds, or if they wished, have the balance devoted to any Irish purpose they named, provided the bonds were returned before 5th February. Mr. Morgan said he would not agree to a penny of his money going to the "Free State" and that if necessary he would fight the matter in public.

Some of the Trustees wanted to pay all our expenses out of the bond money but L.G. would not hear of it.

5th

See diary.

18th

Newspapers are not being let through from Ireland. The "Catholic Bulletin" has not arrived. We got a wrapper from Eason's marked "Young Ireland" and "Old Ireland" and only "Young Ireland" - Griffith's paper - was enclosed. Miss Myles (Dublin) was buying copies of the new paper "The Republic", according to a letter from Miss O'Doherty, when a pro-treaty member of the

1922 Dáil asked her what she was buying so many papers for
 Feb. and she replied "to send abroad". "Yes", said he, "if we
 18th will let them through."

Sent a cablegram to Gavan-Duffy, asking for safe conducts.

22nd Cable received from Gavan-Duffy that he had instructed the Liaison officer to press the matter.

L.G. saw Mons. Ussher who thought that if we had to go home by The States it would be easy enough to get the American Minister or Consul to sign the letter on which L.G. came here.

23rd Letter from James King that the disappearance of the English soldiers appeals to everyone, that L.G.'s telegram voting against ratification created a great sensation and that some of his staunchest supporters were paralysed with dismay.

March The papers have it to-day that Gavan Duffy made a
 2nd statement (in Ireland) according to which the representatives abroad will still represent the Republic but that their position will be somewhat different to what it was.

A letter from Gavan Duffy stated the same thing, adding that L.G. was to abstain from propaganda either for or against the Treaty until the people, at a general election, had decided whether they would accept the "Free State" or not, but that the machinery should be maintained until then, so that in case England broke her treaty Ireland would be ready to resume her former position at once.

The letter also said that the bulletins were to be

There was also a short private letter saying that he understood from President de Valera that we were anxious to get home and that the Cabinet were inclined to meet our wishes in that respect but that there was some suggestion of our visiting Chile and Peru but that in the absence of information he didn't know what to say.

Cabled in reply that we were waiting for safe conducts home but that we were willing to go to Chile and Peru on behalf of the Republic if instructed and financed by cable.

March 3rd L.G. wrote a long letter to Gavan Duffy more or less outling our activities here.

What a pity we did not know of the policy of maintaining the machinery before everything was broken up!

8th A telegram came from Mr. Egan in Chile that a visit from L.G. would give him great personal pleasure but that April or May would be the most suitable month.

10th A cablegram from Gavan Duffy asking him to wire the cost of the Chilean expedition.

A letter also came from the British Legation saying that "His Majesty's Consul General had been instructed by the First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to issue an emergency certificate to enable Mrs. Ginnell and yourself to return to Ireland should you desire to do so".

12th Fr. Fahy said Mass in the hospital and stayed a while afterwards. The conversation began as to whether we were going to Holy Cross (The Passionists) for St. Patrick's Day or not - "that it might be awkward".

Of course we didn't get an invitation. Then he heard from someone who heard from someone else in close touch with us "Of course they burned their fingers a little bit but they would only have to drop Mr. Ginnell quietly". So the neglect all this time was deliberate.

A.G. had a talk with Mother Rita afterwards and casually mentioned being dropped even by the Sisters of Mercy. She said she was hoping that she hadn't noticed it! There was also a discussion as to what they would do at the opening of Clonmacnoise - a new school in San Antonio for the Sisters of Mercy - to which we were not invited. We thought the best thing to do would be to stay in the hospital quietly.

March
17th

Sic transit gloria mundi! Here we were now having got just an ordinary invitation to go to the Mass and breakfast in Holy Cross and not an invitation at all to the Mass in Clonmacnoise, beside us. However, there was Mass in the hospital, to which we went. At breakfast there were presents from the nuns in the hospital done up in the colours for us. Fr. Gearty asked us to lunch and to dinner, at which there were also Miss Gearty, of course, and Frs. Grey and Fahy and the new Argentine curate. After dinner Fr. Gearty toasted "Mr. and Mrs. Ginnell who are soon leaving us" and L.G. replied paying a very nice tribute to Fr. Gearty, "his sole consolation", and also to the hospital sisters.

Altogether it was a nice day. We got a group, consisting of the Sisters of the hospital, Fr. Gearty, L. and A.G., taken as a souvenir.

1922
March
17th Telegram came in from Mr. Revilla that he had got the passports per SS. "Darro" to leave on 4th April.

May we have such good friends round us next St. Patrick's Day.

27th The emergency certificate issued us by the British says that we must go home direct, giving the name of the boat, so the Chilean idea is off.

A cablegram came from Gavan Duffy, last evening saying the Chilean trip was approved and that it was important to get connection with the Pacific Coast.

We told Eamon Bulfin to do the best he could about it.

Mrs. Morgan got it into her head that we were going to-morrow and sent in her son, Francis, to enquire and to say that if it were true she would come in to-day to see us.

Fr. Grey, of Lujan, a courteous, quiet and sincere priest, who was very good to us when we visited Lujan, gave L.G. a book "in token of respect and of thanks for all he had done for the Irish Nation".

April
4th Sailed on SS. Darro from Buenos Aires to Liverpool.

On 2nd April there was a little farewell party in the hospital at which were present: Miss Gearty, Frs. Gearty, Fahy and Costello, Mrs. Morgan and Miss Mooney. Mrs. Morgan wanted to give A.G. "a little present" but she didn't want to hurt her. A.G. thought there would be no harm in accepting whatever it was and it was 1,000 dollars.

1922
April
4th

It was rather lonely, especially when Tosti's "Good-bye for ever" was played on the gramophone, for it was probably good-bye for ever.

The Sisters of Mercy called to say good-bye bringing A.G. a cushion, which she could not possibly take, having everything packed up, and she told them she'd have to leave it in the hospital!

A.G. telephoned Mother Rita to say good-bye. At the station seeing us off were the Ganly family, Monsignor Ussher, Frs. V. Carolan and Ephraim O'Connell - Passionists - and the diplomatic staff. Mons. Ussher could not come on to La Plata, but the others did, except Mr. Mulgrave who had to go to work.

The people on board seem to be boycotting us. Not one of them spoke to us. We were asked if we would mind having some people at our table and said "no", but the people never came.

April
29th

We arrived in Liverpool. Mrs. G's father met us as we were getting off the boat. Some people (he and Mr. T. Noonan in particular) thought it would be a good idea if L.G. would call a meeting of the leaders on both sides in the "split" to try to come to some arrangement to prevent its widening and to arrive at some way of working together, but L.G. did not think he would meet with any success.

A.G. was the first off the boat which arrived about 4.30, and her father had not eaten a bit since 7 o'clock that morning as the time of the boat's arrival was uncertain

1922
May
1st

Papa and we got into Dunlaoghaire about 5 o'clock and were met by Mrs. and Miss Pearse, Mrs. and Mr. Isaac Kelly, Misses Minnie and Teresa O'Doherty and Miss Parolz, who was crying with joy.

Although Kathleen (Mrs. Isaac Kelly) was not expecting anyone but ourselves, we all went to her house for tea and we certainly got a very nice one.

About 7 o'clock we got a motor car to take us to Kilbride, called at Clyde Road to see Cella and the children, who had been to Westland Row to meet us and who expected us to tea in Clyde Road.

As we were coming into Kinnegad the road was blocked - the Free State troops were taking the barracks from the Republicans - fulfilling L's prophesy when the Treaty was signed - that the next thing would be a split in the Volunteers.

There was a great welcome for us at home but L.G. was not at all well.

May
7th

The Bishop's pastoral was read denouncing de Valera and calling his followers gun-men and murderers.

8th

It seems Mr. P. Brett was pressed to become a Free State candidate for the Dáil at the next election but declined until he knew what L.G. would do.

11th

L.G. wrote a statement to be submitted to Cathal Brugha and to be issued or not as he decided.

We drove to Portarlinton - he to take the train to St. John's Hospital (a Blue Sisters' hospital) in Limerick.

Cathal Brugha thought the statement very good except the paragraph dealing with the financial terms, which he said was a recognition that the treaty was going to be operated. As L. did not want it published except in its entirety, it was scrapped.

Cathal Brugha asked Mrs. G. if she were going to see Mr. de Valera and she said "I don't like to be bothering him".

1922
May
16th

Mrs. G. has found another place for her husband outside Bray, but there would be room for only one person, which he might not like.

23rd

An agreement has been arrived at between de Valera and Collins that there is to be a Coalition Government with a united front between Treatyites and anti-treatyites in the same proportion as in the present Dáil but that any outside interest, such as labour, Unionist, Ratepayers' Association, etc. can put up a candidate of its own.

24th

L.G. came up from Limerick, and we both went to Kilbride Villa, Killarney Road, Bray, and L.G. seemed delighted with the place.

While in Limerick he had two drives from the Misses Daly. Miss Murphy also called on him and the Bishop's Secretary.

30th

A.G. saw Mr. de Valera, who asked about L.G. and said there was something he would like him to do - to look over the documents and correspondence in connection with the negotiations and to prove that the Republic hadn't been let down, as is being said. He would like the names

of Mrs. MacSwiney and L.G. to go on that statement. L.G. would like that very much, A.G. said.

This morning's papers have it that L.G. has been selected as Republican candidate for Westmeath-Longford, Belton as a Ratepayers' Association man and Lyons as a Labour candidate.

1922
June
2nd

Mr. King sent a telegram to A.G. to come down to Mullingar at once - to take charge of L.G.'s election campaign.

3rd

Went down to Mullingar. At the station met Papa and L. Carroll - Republican organiser - who informed me (A.G.) that I had been appointed Election Agent.

5th

A.G. went into Mullingar from Kilbride and did not find L. Carroll there nor did she know whether L.G.'s nomination paper had been signed or not.

According to agreement the Treaty and anti-Treaty candidates are to go up as "panel candidates", leaving any independent organisations free to put up anyone else.

6th

Nomination day. There were nominated: Belton (said to be Collins' man against L.G.), L.G., Lyons (Labour), McGuinness, McKeown, Lorcan Robins (Panel).

The Treaty people had instructions from their headquarters to canvass for their candidates by name and the anti-Treaty people had instructions to canvass for the panel, leaving the preference to the voter!

7th

A.G. went to visit L.G. and to headquarters in Suffolk St. and succeeded in getting them to send down a good organiser - Mr. Brown. She told L.G. she was afraid

he would have to show himself in the constituency, as a Republican organisers - on our side - is reported to have said at a meeting that he was 80 years of age and a dying man and the report went all over the constituency.

1922 L.G. attended meetings in Longford, Ballymahon
June and Athlone. MacEoin spoke at the latter place and A.G.
11th said she never heard a cleverer election speech.

15th Day before polling day. A.G. says that by this time everything that could go wrong went wrong.

See A.G.'s diary.

16th Polling day. None of our workers seem very much in earnest. We had hardly anyone in any booth in Longford. In Kilbeggan A.G. ran across Seán Hurley and had it out with him about the advertisement in the "Westmeath Independent" - Vote for the four candidates who support the Treaty - and other things.

A.G. heard that L. Carroll, who was left in the Mullingar office to attend to anything that might arise, was seen following MacEoin's car all over the place.

There were rumours about a ballot box from Ballinagore which had not come in. A.G. went to the Sheriff about it. He said he would send for the box and let us know when it came. It came about one o'clock without any seals on it. A.G. made a verbal protest. Next day a box came in from Drumlish - the only place supposed to have been anyway favourable to us - with the tabs flying. A.G. thought it very suspicious. After consulting her father she decided to take our chances and not to invalidate the election.

1922
June
17th After going to Ballinagore to find out about the box, which left there at 10 o'clock and did not reach Mullingar until one, A.G. went home.

19th Election result: MacEoin, Lyons, Ginnell and MacGuinness, leaving Belton and Robins out.

July
9th Three nights running a man entered the house in Bray. The first night he stole some chickens - as a blind perhaps. The next night he got £60 belonging to L.G. He said he had instructions from Captain Doran (?) of the Free State Army and gave a receipt for the money as having been taken for the Free State Army. Only that Miss O'Shea held his hand, he would have bashed L.'s head in.

L.G. sent a wire to M. Collins about the matter, saying he was holding him responsible for the money and demanding effective protection. Captain Doran called and said that the man whom they had arrested had only been enrolled three days and said that it was reported that Fr. Dominic and de Valera were staying in the house - as if that were excuse enough.

10th We both went to Cathal Brugha's funeral. A.G. was very proud to be carrying little Rory. L.G. said that the funeral was the funeral of the Republic.

At a meeting of Republican deputies and ex-deputies a letter was read from de Valera suggesting that Seán T. O'Kelly, Mrs. O'Callaghan and L.G. should attend the meeting of the Southern Dáil.

The inscription on the wreath we ordered for Cathal

Brugha:

"For how can man die better than facing fearful odds"?
With more respect and sympathy than words can express.

1922 L.G. is talking of going to America on a lecture
Aug. tour. Two men have already gone in the interest of the
2nd Republic, Sceilg being one and O'Doherty, representing the
Army, the other.

Sept. Meeting of the "Treaty" Dáil. L.G. was the only
9th Republican who attended. Having asked if the assembly
was a meeting of Dáil Éireann or of a Partition Parliament,
he was forcibly ejected - Seán MacEoin being the only
Free Stater to get up and shake hands with him before
he was put out.

23rd A.G. went to see L.G. with regard to her idea
that she should go to the U.S.A. to try to start a
typewriting office to provide their future means of
living, to which he agreed. He said that when it was
first mentioned in Argentina he could not conceive it at
all, but now he is reconciled to it. There really
seemed nothing else to be done.

A.G. met Mr. Fawsitt, who will perhaps help her
with a passport. She saw Miss Myles who was delighted
at the prospect of coming away with her to help her.
(She worked in the Underwood typewriting office in Dublin).

Mrs. Skeffington and Kathleen Boland are going
to U.S.A.

26th Mr. Fawsitt called to Clyde Road. He does not
approve of my going away in case anything happens to L.G.

but thinks there would be no difficulty about getting a passport in my own name.

1922
Oct.
3rd The "Independent" contains a quotation from a letter from L.G. to the Longford Co. Council that "he had done his best for peace, but that he was refused co-operation and suppressed by the Press".

L.G. said to his brother, James, that long ago he made it a rule of life to work for a lofty ideal and to work with all his might. If it came to pass it was happiness and if it did not, one had still done one's best.

Oct.
4th A.G. applied to-day for her passport to U.S.A. as "Miss King", born in Mullingar and single going as a "foreign typist".

20th A.G. writes: "Papa takes a much more serious view of the Bishop's denunciation and excommunication of "Irregulars" and silencing of priests who are of their way of thinking than anyone I have yet met and said it was a terrible danger to catholicity".

23rd A.G. said good-bye to her home people.

24th Mrs. Pearse called to say good-bye to A.G. and said that if ever A.G. was short of money to let her know and she would send some if she had it.

E. de Lacy also called and brought her cards printed "A. King" in a very nice pocket book and a bottle of champagne which they drank the last thing.

25th Miss Myles and A.G. left on their adventure.

- 1922 L.G. sent bank draft for £558 6 9 to Austin Stack - representing 7,258.20 Argentine pesos - the result of the Bond Sales, which had only just started when the collapse came.
- Nov. L.G. went to Glasgow for several meetings.
10th
- 14th When about to leave Glasgow Jos. Robinson offered him £10 for expenses, but he only took £5.
- 24th Received letter from Mr. de Valera asking him was he willing to go to Washington and he replied in the affirmative.
- Dec. A.G. bought a "Public Stenographer" office in the
5th Borden Building, Madison Avenue, for 450 dollars, having vainly tried to get a position, under the name of Miss Alice King - about which Sceilg later on - not knowing anything about the matter - wrote to de Valera in a letter which was captured, complaining about "Mrs. Ginnell"s movements".
- 6th L.G. left Ireland for U.S.A. via Montreal as Envoy with Seán Moylan, as military attaché. "All who remain in U.S.A. - Fr. Flanagan, Sceilg, Jos. O'Doherty - must consider themselves as a team with you the Captain".
- 25th L.G. spent Christmas Day in Montreal and says that in Montreal "the graceful custom prevails of employers and employed shaking hands". Saw Mrs. and Miss Sheridan.
- 26th L.G. left Montreal by train for New York. Mr. Lindsay Crawford travelled to New York by another line to take possession of the Irish Consulate offices.

1922
Dec.
27th

Mr. Finerty went with him to the Consul offices where he handed in his letter outlining the position.

Messrs. Smiddy and Crawford refused to give up the offices. He waited "for hours" to enable them to consult", but they still held on.

There is friction everywhere. All the Irish people in New York - Sceilg, Jos. O'Doherty, Moylan, Mrs. Skeffington - seem to resent L.G. with the exception of Mrs. MacSwiney and Robert Briscoe. Then there is friction between various Irish-Americans and Irish-American Associations - to simplify it, perhaps too much - it may be said between the Clan na Gael and the American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic - between the other ladies and Mrs. MacSwiney - that is on the anti-Treaty side - to say nothing of the division between the Free Staters and the Republicans!

It would appear that Mrs. Skeffington does not want Mrs. MacSwiney to go to any meetings except Irish ones - she, perhaps, the only one of them who could penetrate into all-American circles and be listened to and received.

They actually want her to sign some sort of undertaking etc.. etc. and told her that if she wanted to go to outside meetings and not continue the tour with them she would have to pay her own expenses!

1923
Jan.
1st

L.G. had discussions with callers - poisoned by personal antagonisms. He was greatly worried.

About midnight Mr. Finnerty and himself reached an understanding.

- 1923
Jan.
2nd In pursuance of last night's understanding Michael O'Brien called at 8 o'clock this morning and he signed an order appointing him (Mr. O'Brien) acting Consul.
- 3rd Got out 8,000 circulars.
- 7th L.G. received a long telegram from Mr. Jos. O'Doherty asking him to correct a construction put upon his circular by Fr. Yorke in the San Francisco "Leader". He telegraphed Fr. Yorke and Mr. O'Doherty, the "Irish World" and the Editor of the "San Francisco Leader" and also wrote to Fr. Yorke and Mr. O'Doherty.
- 9th L.G. wrote to Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington urging her to employ Mrs. MacSwiney.
- 28th L.G. has been unwell for the last week.
- 30th Offered Mr. Mr. O'Brien a Secretaryship.
- Feb.
8th L.G. cabled home with reference to series of articles and Sceilg's refusal of money to him.

Wrote to Sceilg.

Extract of letter from L.G.:

"Sceilg rushes to assure me that he never meant to be unfriendly but in the middle of the same letter advises me to come to New York to work for him in his absence, for which his Mr. Hearty will pay me an adequate salary".

Sceilg had received instructions from Ireland to finance L.G. out of funds collected in U.S.A.

Another extract of letter from L.G. dated 10.1.23:

"I have written and wired Mrs. Skeffington suggesting sending Muriel to all the Ohio meetings as otherwise there was a threat that they would all be cancelled. But the whole thing has become intensely bitter".

- 1923
Feb.
13th A conference with Sceilg, Fr. O'Flanagan, Mos.
O'Doherty and Seán Moylan. Moderately successful, lasting
three hours.
- 21st Received letter from Art O'Brien and from home,
the latter enclosing draft for £1,000.
- 22nd Arrived in Chicago for a conference.
- 24th Mr. Finnerty informed L.G. that all the members
of the National Executive were opposed to his asking the
Conference to sanction a "drive" for funds to help them
at home. He said that if a drive were not sanctioned
the Association would be wrecked.
- 25th Mr. Finnerty informed him over the phone that the
Executive were agreeable to his wishes.
- National Conference of the A.A.R.I.R. very
successful. Mr. J.J. Castellini was very helpful to him.
- March
1st L.G. arrived in New York from Washington. Mr.
and Mrs. Castellini met him and Miss Myles. A.G. is
very ill.
- 2nd A.G. still very ill. Mrs. Castellini is taking
her to Washington with her and thence to Cincinnati.
She remained with her all day till she got the temperature
down. The doctor called it "starvation fever". She
had been working 12 and 14 hours a day at her Arrow
multigraph office.
- 3rd L.G. saw Father Magennis off to Rome and returned
to Washington where he found A.G. improved.

1923
March
5th A.G. started for Cincinnati with Mrs. Castellini.

12th Saw Mr. Garth Healy whom Mr. de Valera suggested getting to act as general accountant for him.

Also saw the Archbishop, who is gently sympathetic and a confirmed Republican.

Hearty refuses to allow books to be audited.

Messrs. Moylan, O'Doherty, MacGarritty and Hearty met him and they had an animated discussion of generally good effect.

16th L.G. sent his longest (6th) despatch to Dublin through Paris and London. It was a very full survey of the situation in U.S.A.

20th Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Russell, who have been very kind to me, took me to the Arts Club to dinner and an entertainment.

22nd L.G. says that a despatch received from home "worries him much". He sent a rather short, indignant despatch in reply.

24th A.G. arrived in Washington from Cincinnati greatly improved in health. Bob Castellini and L.G. were at the station to meet her.

Had lunch with his wife and then returned to Washington.

April
6th Forwarded to James King to-day a draft for £85 12 1 - 400 dollars - to be given to the families of Byrne and Geraghty, whose places have been destroyed

by the Black and Tans and themselves executed by Free State soldiers.

7th The "Irish World" publishes an "important announcement" to the effect that E.J. Hearty, secretary of the Irish Republican Defence Mission, who represents Hon. J.J. O'Kelly as trustee during the latter's absence, announces that he has just received a letter from President de Valera that as long as the Defence Mission is working in its present methods it must not be disturbed.

"That the accounts of the Mission are being audited by the gentleman who has always audited Irish Republican Accounts here, being selected for that work by President de Valera.

"All communications and all contributions to the Defence Fund should be sent to E.J. Hearty, 8 East 41st St., New York."

L.G. wanted all funds audited by the Dáil auditor - Garth Healy.

The above announcement would seem to be the result of a despatch received by them concurrently with the one received by L.G. which "worried him much".

Meeting of the National Executive of the A.A.R.I.R.
It was entirely satisfactory.

April Extract of letter received from L.G. by A.G. dated
10th 10th April: -

"I should have sent you the enclosed letters at once but I was anxious about, though not present at a meeting of the National Executive. Yesterday I was unwell but am all right to-day, D.G."

The executive decided as I desired - to allow expenses to be deducted but those certified by

Dáil Éireann. Finnerty is very bitter towards me; and - extraordinary - Lyons, who was instructed to send me a copy of the resolution adopted in my presence, has just now sent me a copy of a resolution drafted by Finnerty in which there is not a word about an audit. I am going at once to prevent this being circulated in the Minutes.

In other ways also my position is very difficult and I suppose that affects my health.

I am not yet in good form and will close".

1923
April
17th

Mr. MacGarrity rang up Mrs. G. at the "Arrow Multigraph Service" to ask when she had heard from L.G. and to say that he was not at all well. She said "There must be great rejoicing over that" - at which Mr. MacGarrity was shocked. She then said to him: Mr. MacGarrity, you are far too intelligent a man not to know what has been going on". She also said that she intended to go down to Washington on the following Saturday.

Then Mrs. Skeffington rang up and asked Mrs. G. to come over to see her as soon as possible - that the matter was urgent. A.G. wondered what was up, that they had telephoned her after such a long silence. She went to see Mrs. Skeffington, who tried to break the news gently that L.G. was dead. R.I.P.

L.G. called to see his doctor that morning and - to save Irish Republican money - walked from the doctor's house back to his hotel. He died almost immediately he got back.

A.G. rang up Mrs. Corless, who helped her through the day. Mrs. Skeffington suggested her coming to Washington with Mrs. G., which was agreed, as Mrs. G. did not wish to show publicly that there was such a "split".

When Mrs. G. got to Washington, she found all L.G.'s papers etc. had been removed.

Mrs. Castellini telegraphed to the Washington University authorities to release from his studies her son, Bon, until Mrs. G. sailed, and Bob remained with her day and night, being a wonderful help, though so young, but so trustworthy.

Una Ford offered her family burial ground, before it was known that his body was being brought to Ireland.

The day the body was being brought from Washington to New York, Mrs. G. made another effort to get back the papers. She forgets who was present, except Bob, but one man stood with his watch in his hand telling her that she would miss the train, on which her husband's body was and she had to pretend that she did not mind.

His body was brought to the Carmelite Church, East 29th St. There were discussions as to who should go over with her and Major Kelly was suggested. She did not know Major Kelly, but as the people who were paying suggested him she thought they were entitled to choose.

There was a small dinner of her intimate friends, including Mrs. Corless, Doctor MacGuinness (lady) and some others whose names she does not remember. When they heard that Major Kelly was coming over they were very vexed and wanted to know if she had agreed to that and wanted her to withdraw her consent.

For the reason given, Mrs. G. said she did not see her way to do that. Whereupon someone - perhaps Mrs. Corless - remarked "You are a spineless creature -

a traitor to your husband" - and they all went away. The only bright spot in that dreadful business was that Una Ford was not present.

Mr. Castellini paid the difference between a single and a double cabin on the ship - at least he paid something and A.G. thinks it was that.

After a day on board Mrs. G. began to worry if all the necessary documents, death certificate, etc. were with the purser, as she had seen nothing of Major Kelly. She enquired if he were on board and asked him to come to see her. He told her that he had got an indignant telegram from the same group that if he dared to go to Ireland with L.G.'s remains etc. etc. and of course thought that Mrs. G. approved of the telegram, when I had known nothing at all about it. Mrs. G. told him then what happened at the dinner.

He, the Captain, doctor and all the officers of the ship were extremely kind to her.

When we landed at Southampton Mrs. Fintan Murphy from London came on board and wasn't she welcome! In London the coffin had to be dumped on the platform until some one went to see about a hearse. Of course the times were troubled there too and most of the workers scattered and also there was a serious "split" between Art O'Brien and Mr. Fintan Murphy.

There was Mass in Corpus Christi Church, Maiden Lane, before leaving for Ireland.

A little "prophecy" should, perhaps, be here recorded. Mr. J.L. Walsh, in one of their discussions,

asked L.G. what he thought would now happen in Ireland.
 L.G. replied "everything will be all right by the 1st May."
 It was on the 1st May that his body arrived in Dublin!
 It was brought to Whitefriars St. and after Mass next
 day by motor to Clonarne, Delvin, where, in a grave
 lined with moss and primroses, he was laid to rest
 among his fathers.

Signed: A. Ginnell
 (A. Ginnell)
 Date: 23rd July, 1954

Witness: Mr. F. Ryan Connell
 (M.F. Ryan)

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21
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NO. W.S. 982